

A regular meeting of the Hardwick Select Board was held on Thursday, January 20, 2005 at 6:00 P.M. in the 3rd floor meeting room of the Hardwick Memorial Building.

Members Present:
Patricia Coultas
Charles Volk
M. Tod Delaricheliere
Todd Deuso

Others Present:
Daniel Hill, Lynda Brochu
Roger LeCours, Nathan Meunier,

6:00 P.M. Todd Deuso called the meeting called to order.

6:00 P.M. M. Tod Delaricheliere moved to approve the regular Select Board minutes of January 6, 2005.

Patricia Coultas - seconded

M. Tod had a number of corrections on page three. The minutes reported that motions were made by him after he left the meeting.

Motion passed unanimously with
corrections as indicated

COMMUNICATIONS FROM AUDIENCE:

MANAGERS REPORT

Acceptance of the Budget and Warning

Dan told the Board that enclosed in their packets was the latest budget figures. Dan advised the Board that the budget has gone up since the Board last saw it as county tax was finalized. County tax was increased by \$4,000.00. Dan's office also changed the budget to reflect 2 of our police officers going from single insurance coverage to a family plan. The only other change was extra money added to professional services for the potential of legal fees for the cell tower appeals.

Lynda gave the Board the final proposed Warning for Town Meeting. Dan reviewed the articles and appropriations.

Dan advised the Board that because of pre town meeting needing to be on February 24th, the Select Board meeting schedule for February would be the 10th and the 24th of February.

6:10 P.M. M. Tod moved to accept the Budget and Warning as presented.

Patti seconded
Motion passed unanimously

Change to the Insurance Buyout Policy

Dan told the Board that based on the increased costs of providing health and dental insurance and general inflation, his office is proposing that the Town amend its buyout policy from \$1,000.00 per year to \$1,500.00 per year. The Board received a copy of the current policy in their packets. The Board discussed increasing the buyout amount.

6:12 P.M. Charles moved to increase the Town's buyout policy from \$1,000 to \$1,500 per year.

M. Tod seconded
Motion passed unanimously

Certificate of Highway Miles

Dan had the annual Certificate of Highway Miles for the Board's signatures. This is an annual statement by the Town as to how many miles of each class of road we have and is sent to the State for their records. There are no changes to report this year.

6:13 P.M. M. Tod moved to accept the Certificate of Highway Miles.

Patti seconded
Motion passed unanimously

Update on Pump House # 2

Dan told the Board that the motor in pump house # 2 of our main water pumping wells has failed. He ordered a new one for a cost of \$5,700.00 and it should be installed and running by the end of this week. Normally, the two wells are rotated so they alternate each time we need to pump water, when there is a break down the wells run on just one pump. Dan thanked the Hardwick Electric Department for their cooperation on this problem. They used their boom truck to assist us in getting the old motor out of the pump house and will be helping to get the new one installed. The Board discussed the pump and wells.

Environmental Court Role for the Town

Dan told the Board that there have been two appeals of the Zoning Board's decision on the cell tower. Rinker has appealed as has Karen Shaw (and others). Dan explained that this will now go to environmental court where the case will be heard all over again with the court taking the place of the Town's Zoning Board in determining the right solution. In order for the Town to keep up to speed with any testimony or other documentation during the case, Dan recommended filing a motion to intervene (24 V.S.A. 4471(c)). This will allow the Town to keep up with the case as it progresses and if, at some later date, we decide to take a more active role, we could do so. Dan also

told the Board that they needed to select a contact person - whether it be Nancy Kish or himself. Patti said she preferred that Dan be the contact person and the Board agreed. 6:20 P.M. Todd moved to file a motion to intervene with the environmental court.

M. Tod seconded
Motion passed unanimously

Regional Policing

Dan explained that the town representatives will meet again after Town Meeting to learn who is in and who is out and how we will go forward.

Ice Jam Update

Dan told the Board that with the warm weather we experienced last week all of the ice from East Hardwick down through Hardwick let loose and got caught on the rail road bridge in Hardwick village. The water level came up very quickly and was threatening to flood. Dan called Manosh and they removed a lot of the ice to establish a flow of water again. They will be done on Friday, January 21st. The Board discussed the river.

Bike Path Update

Dan met with representatives of Vtrans last week to talk about the proposed bike path from the swinging bridge along the river. They authorized him to negotiate a contract with Dubois & King for the preliminary engineering. Dan has had one conversation with D & K and he is waiting for them to give the Town a counter offer based on the reduced amount of work they need to do.

Glenside Update

Dan told the Board that Vtrans is going to hold a Public Hearing on the Glenside landslide project. It is going to be at the Hardwick Elementary School on February 15th at 6:00 PM. There is going to be an open forum from 5:30-6:00 that night for open discussion on Glenside at the same location. This will allow for informal discussions prior to the actual hearing.

Dan told the Board that the Listers have approached him about increasing their hourly rate, when working on reappraisal, to \$11.00 an hour. The Board discussed what the increased work load would be for the Listers. Dan explained that all the reappraisal salaries would be coming from the reappraisal fund and not the general budget.

6:32 P.M. Patti moved to increase the hourly pay for the listers to \$11.00 an hour when working on reappraisal.

Charles seconded
Patti - Yes
Charles - Yes
Todd - Yes
M. Tod - Abstained

Dan handed the Board a letter from Kate Scarlott concerning the rail bed VAST trails.

Lynda told the Board about an upcoming meeting with a satellite phone representative and the various rescue agencies in Hardwick. She invited the Board to attend this meeting at the Memorial Building next Friday, January 28th at 9 AM.

Dan reminded the Board that his review is usually completed in February. Todd Deuso said he would spear head the review and be in contact with the other Board members.

Old Business: The Board discussed the now defunct teen center.

New Business: None

Select Board Reports: None

6:46 P.M. Todd moved to go into Executive Session to discuss union negotiations to include Dan Hill, Town Manager and Lynda Brochu, Administrative Asst.

Patti seconded
Motion passed unanimously

7:00 P.M. Out of Executive Session - No action taken

7:00 P.M. M. Tod moved to adjourn the meeting.

Patti seconded
Motion passed unanimously

Minutes approved by:

Todd Deuso, Chair

Minutes taken by: Lynda N. Brochu